REMARKS

The above preliminary amendment is made to recognize color drawings in the application, to add new claims 39-49, and to remove multiple dependencies from claims 11, 16, and 27-37. No new matter is introduced by the amendment and entry thereof is requested.

Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Gregory A. Sebald (Reg. No. 33,280), at (612) 336.4728.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C. P.O. Box 2903 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903

(612) 332-5300

Dated: 5 May 2004

Gregory A. Sebald Reg. No. 33,280

GAS:hjm

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE